

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Turkmen and Uzbek SSRs)	REPORT		
SUBJECT	Suspension of the Chief Turkmen Canal Project	DATE DISTR.	16 May 1955	25X1
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This is UNEVALUATED

Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. REVERSAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. In November 1953, some work on the small canals was still going on, but the main part of the Chief Turkmen Canal project had been abandoned. Approximately 200 excavators were standing idle in Takhiya Tash (approx. N42-20, E59-33).
2. [ ] the Turkmen Canal was to be 1,200 km long and that 10,000 to 20,000 prisoners worked on the project. [ ] it was given up after the death of Stalin in order to concentrate on projects that would help raise the standard of living of the people. One of these projects was the irrigation work in South Kazakhstan, started to help agriculture. Much of the equipment used to build the Turkmen Canal had been moved to Kazakhstan.
3. There were acres of machinery parked near Takhiya Tash, which had become a military town in 1953.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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